Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5870 INFO AMCONGEN LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: TGEN,US,UR

SUBJECT: US-USSR COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS: 23 OCTOBER MEETING

OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES: REQUESTED SUGGESTIONS I: COMMUNICATIONS

REF: ROOOT/SCIOFF TELCON OF 15 OCTOBER

SECTION I - DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAMS

1. DEPT TELEGRAMS REMAIN THE METHOD OF CHOICE FOR COMMUNICATIONS UNDER THE AGREEMENTS:

A. THE EMBASSY HAND-DELIVERS COMMUNICATIONS TO DESIGNATED SOVIET SUBSTANTIVE INDIVIDUAL AND RESPECTIVE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, SO THAT VAGARIES OF INTERNATIONAL AND SOVIET POST ARE AVOIDED AND ALL RESPONSIBLE SOVIET PARTIES ARE INFORMED.

B. SPECIFIC REFERENCES TO GIVEN MESSAGES ARE POSSIBLE BY SUBSTANTIVE US AGENCY AND EMBASSY.

C. EMBASSY, DEPARTMENT, AND CONGEN ARE INFORMED AND ABLE TO FOLLOW UP QUICKLY IF PLANS BECOME UNGLUED.

2. IN ORDER TO ENSURE SMOOTH OPERATION OF AGREEMENTS, EMBASSY REOUESTS:

A. THAT OFFICIAL CABLES CONTINUE TO SERVE AS PRIMARY CHANNEL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOR COMMUNICATIONS UNDER THE AGREEMENTS.

B. THAT ON SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS, FOR WHICH EMBASSY PRESENTATION CAN BE VITAL TO SUCCESS OF EFFORT, BACKGROUND INFORMATION BE INCLUDED (E.G., ON REQUEST FOR SITE-VISIT LIKELY TO BE OBJECTIONABLE TO SOVIETS: INDICATION OF IMPORTANCE OF SITE AND POSSIBLE FALL-BACK POSITION; ON PROBLEM VISAS: INDICATION OF SITUATION)

C. THAT TELEGRAMS BE TITLE-LINED AS SPECIFICALLY AS POSSIBLE (AGREEMENT, GROUP, SUB-GROUP OR, PREFEREABLY, NUMBER--SEE MOSCOW 15135), AND THAT EACH TELEGRAM REFER TO ACTIVITIES OF ONLY ONE DELEGATION

D. THAT AMCONGEN LENINGRAD BE INCLUDED AS ADDRESSEE ON ALL CABLESDEALING WITH USDELS TRAVELLING TO LENINGRAD CONSULAR DISTRICT.

SECTION II - POUCH

1. POUCHING MATERIALS FOR EMBASSY TRANSMITTAL IS THE OTHER SURE WAY TO GET INFORMATION THROUGH TO SOVIETS. EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES SHOULD BE AWARE, HOWEVER, THAT DOCUMENTS HAVE OFTEN ARRIVED AT EMBASSY A MONTHOR MORE AFTER THEIR INDICATED DRAFTING DATES. THE POUCH ITSELF APPEARS NOT TO BE THE PROBLEM, INASMUCH AS ALMOST ALL DEPT MATERIALS ARRIVE WITHIN A WEEK OF THE SENDING DATE, ALTHOUGH EVEN WITH DEPT ITEMS THERE HAVE BEEN SIGNIFICANT EXCEPTIONS, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS:

A. THAT ANY MESSAGES REQUIRING SOVIET RESPONSE IN LESS THAN TWO MONTHS OR DEALING WITH DELEGATION TRAVEL IN THAT TIME-FRAME BE SENT BY CABLE.

B. THAT MATERIALS POUCHED FOR TRANSMITTAL INCLUDE ORIGINAL AND COPY PRE-ADDRESSED FOR DESIGNEE AND RESPECTIVE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, AS WELL AS COPY FOR EMBASSY.

C. THAT THERE BE TWO TRANSMITTAL SLIPS, ONE OF WHICH WILL BE MARKED WITH DATES OF EMBASSY RECEIPT AND TRANSMITTAL AND THEN RETURNED FOR SENDER'S RECORDS.

D. THAT TRANSMITTAL SLIPS BE TITLE-LINED AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION I PARA 2C ABOVE

E. THAT POUCHED ITEMS BE REGISTERED.

SECTION III - OUT-OF-CHANNEL COMMUNICATIONS

1. DIRECT CONTACTS BETWEEN WORKING-GROUP CHAIRMEN OR BELOW LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CANNOT BE RECOMMENDED AT THIS TIME. SUCH DIRECT CONTACTS
BY INTERNATIONAL MAIL, TELEX, AND TELPHONE ELIMINATE EMBASSY FROM
THE INFORMATIONAL CHAIN, RENDERING BOTH THE VISA AND EMBASSY/
DEPT. SUPPORT ROLES EXTREMELY DIFFICULT. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS.
A. THAT DIRECT CONTACT BY WORKING- OR PROJECT-GROUP CHAIRMEN
BE STRONGLY DISCOURAGED.

B. THAT, IN RARE CASE WHEN URGENCY REQUIRES DIRECT CONTACT, ENBASSY RECEIVE COPY OF TELEX FOR FOLLOW-UP.

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